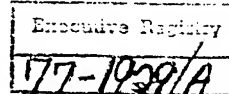


77-8-10

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505



19 August 1977

P-1.4/1
27 July

Dear Professor Frank:

I have read your letter of 27 July 1977 with keen interest. It is especially pleasing to hear that the certificate and MA programs you based on the Naval War College curriculum have been successful. Naturally, I applaud your intention to move ahead to the PhD level with assurance that the program will appeal to a significant number of those for whom it is being designed. It is gratifying to know that the approach to the higher education of naval officers that I found persuasive five years ago is gaining acceptance in a wider circle of the defense community.

I can think of no reason why that same approach should not prove personally attractive and professionally useful to qualified officers who are desirous of acquiring a PhD. There is, however, one qualification I wish to call to your attention, though I am aware it may be unnecessary. Most of the officers who are attracted to your program will, of necessity, be leaving their service within a few years. Some of these will wish to seek academic positions as a second career. For this reason, even though you are appropriately aiming your program mainly at serving officers, it seems to me essential that the program be so designed that its completion will assist, and neither hinder nor deter, those who may, upon retirement from the service, choose this second-career option. To this end, as I am confident you will agree, it is of crucial importance that your program be firmly grounded in a recognized academic discipline and that your students, having earned the doctorate, be freely accepted by their academic contemporaries as full professional members of that discipline.

I assume, in your case, that the discipline in question will be history. It might equally as well be political science or economics, or even one of the newer disciplines of systematic analysis. What is essential is that other members of the discipline accept your doctors as respected colleagues. Only time will tell, of course, how PhDs with the new specialty will fare in the academic arena. You can only seek to assure that they will be launched under favorable auspices.

Beyond this, it is difficult to offer you concrete comment without more specific indications of the content of your program. I am enclosing for your information the syllabus of a course that will be given at the National War College during the coming year. You will see that it is concerned with many of the subjects you will wish to incorporate in the more contemporary portion of your PhD program. I do not suggest that you use the course as a model, only that you may find in the syllabus useful suggestions on subjects and readings.

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

P-1.4/1

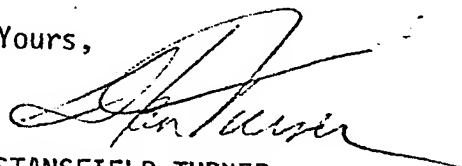
Willard Frank

Lieutenant Commander Harlan Ullman, who was largely responsible for developing the course, and who in doing so consulted many of the best authorities in and out of the Government, including the faculty of the Naval War College, is someone you might well wish later to apply to for comment and advice on the specifics of your program. Ullman has a PhD in International Relations from the Fletcher School where the program he followed bore some resemblance to the one you are designing. Perhaps you have seen the articles he has published in the Naval War College Review and elsewhere.

Finally, let me also say that I am grateful for your compliment to my Foreign Affairs article and that I trust I may look forward to complimenting some of your ex-students on comparable efforts in future years.

With best wishes for the acceptance and success of your splendid project,

Yours,



STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure

Willard C. Frank, Jr.
Associate Professor of History
Old Dominion University

Norfolk, Va. 23508

STAT